

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring ~~the~~ transmission of medical images on a data communications network as the medical images are transported within the data communication network, the method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a medical image network transaction request by a medical image transport service deployed on the data communication network, said medical image network transaction relating to the delivery of the medical images through over a dynamically determined route on the data communication network as the medical images are transported within the data communication network; and

notifying an entity associated with ~~the a~~ transaction request which caused the medical image network transaction to be initiated as to the status of the medical image network transaction request if the medical image network transaction is delayed on the network or of an estimated time of delivery of the medical image.

Claim 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the entity associated with the transaction request is a client application.

Claims 3-4. (Canceled)

Claim 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of notifying comprises notifying the entity of a change in scheduled time for delivery of the medical image.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of notifying comprises notifying the entity of a delay in scheduled delivery of the medical image.

Claim 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of notifying comprises notifying the entity of the reason for the delay, the source of the delay, the location of the delay, and if other images can still be retrieved.

Claim 8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of notifying comprises notifying the entity of a likely resolutions to the delay.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is a first network, and wherein the step of notifying comprises sending a notification on a second network.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the second network is separate from the first network, and wherein the notification is a data message generated on the second network.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the data message is at least one of an e-mail, a pager message, and a voice message.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A medical image transport service deployed on a communication network ~~configured~~ to monitor the transmission of medical images on ~~a~~ the data communication communications network as the medical images are transported within the data communication network, comprising:

a data management service, ~~said data management service being configured~~ to monitor the transmission of medical images ~~through~~ over a dynamically determined route on the data communication network as the medical images are transported within the data communication network to determine how the medical images are being handled by network elements forming the data communication network to estimate when the medical images will be delivered by the data communication network and to detect sources of delay in transmission of the medical images within the data communication network that may affect delivery of the medical images by the data communication network; and

a client interface configured to provide notifications to a client related to the status of the transmissions of medical images on the network if the medical images are delayed on the network or of an estimated time of delivery of the medical images.

Claim 13. (Original) The medical image transport service of claim 12, further comprising a network resource manager configured to interface network devices in the network to resolve delays in the network attendant to transmission of medical images on the network.